

ABSTRACT

A device for monitoring a storage area network (SAN) that incorporates a global positioning system (GPS) receiver. The monitoring device (SAN monitor) generally includes a Fibre Channel interface for connecting to a Fibre Channel, a PCI interface for connecting to a PCI bus, a controller connected to the Fibre Channel interface and the PCI interface for controlling the functions of the SAN monitor, and a GPS receiver for receiving GPS satellite signals and providing a synchronized timing signal to the controller via a timer. When a plurality of SAN monitors deployed on the network at large distances from each other, the timing signals provided by the GPS receiver enables the monitors to sample data from the network in a synchronized manner.

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